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From Saturday December 18. to Tuesday December 21. 1714.

DIRECTIONS *to Our Archbiſhops and Biſhops for the Preſerving of Unity in the Church and the Purity of the Chriſtian Faith, concerning the Holy Trinity; and alſo for Preſerving the Peace and Quiet of the State.*

GEORGE R.

MOST Reverend, and Right Reverend Fathers in God, We greet you well: Whereas we are given to underſtand, That there have of late been great Differences among ſome of the Clergy of this Our Realm, about their ways of Expreſſing themſelves in their Sermons and Writings concerning the Doctrine of the Bleſſed Trinity: And whereas alſo unuſual Liberties have been taken by ſeveral of the ſaid Clergy, in intermeddling with the Affairs of State and Government, and the Conſtitution of the Realm, Both which may be of very dangerous Conſequence, if not timely prevented: We therefore, out of our Princely Care and Zeal for the Preſervation of the Peace and Unity of the Church, together with the Purity of the Chriſtian Faith, and alſo for Preſerving the Peace and Quiet of the State, Have thought fit to ſend you theſe following Directions, which we ſtraitly Charge and Command you to Publiſh, and to ſee that they be obſerved within your ſeveral Dioceſes.

I. *THAT no Preacher whatſoever, in his Sermon or Lecture, do preſume to deliver any other Doctrine concerning the Bleſſed Trinity, than what is contained in the Holy Scriptures, and is agreeable to the Three Creeds, and the Thirty nine Articles of Religion.*

II. *That in the Explication of this Doctrine they carefully avoid all new Terms, and confine themſelves to ſuch ways of Expreſſion as have been commonly uſed in the Church.*

III. *That Care be taken in this Matter, eſpecially to obſerve the Fifty third Canon of this Church, which forbids publick Oppoſition between Preachers; becauſe (as that Canon Expreſſes it) there groweth thereby much Offence and Diſquietneſs unto the People: And that above all things they abſtain from bitter Invectives and Scurrilous Language againſt all Perſons whatſoever.*

IV. *That none of the Clergy in their Sermons or Lectures, preſume to intermeddle in any Affairs of State or Government, or the Conſtitution of the Realm, ſave only on ſuch Special Feaſts and Faſts as are or ſhall be appointed by Publick Authority; and then, no further than the Occaſion of ſuch Days ſhall ſtrictly require. Provided always, That nothing in this Direction ſhall be underſtood to diſcharge any Perſon from Preaching in Defence of Our Regal Supremacy Eſtabliſhed by Law, as often, and in ſuch manner as the Firſt Canon of this Church doth require.*

V. *That the foregoing Directions be alſo Obſerved by thoſe who Write any thing concerning the ſaid Subjects.*

VI. *Whereas alſo We are Credibly Inform'd That it is the Manner of ſome in every Dioceſe, before their Sermon either to uſe a Collect and the Lord's Prayer, or the Lord's Prayer only, (which the Fifty fifth Canon preſcribes as the Concluſion of the Prayer, and not the whole Prayer) or at leaſt to leave out Our Titles, by the ſaid Canon required to be Declared and Recognized: We do further Direct, That you Require your Clergy, in their Prayer before Sermon, That they do keep ſtrictly to the Form in the ſaid Canon contained, or to the full Effect thereof.*

VII. *And whereas We alſo underſtand, That divers Perſons who are not of the Clergy, have of late preſumed not only to Talk and to Diſpute againſt the Chriſtian Faith, concerning the Doctrine of the Bleſſed Trinity, but alſo to Write and Publiſh Books and Pamphlets againſt the ſame, and induſtriouſly Spread them through the Kingdom, contrary to the known Laws in that behalf made and enacted; and particularly to one Act of Parliament made in the Ninth Year of King* William *the Third, Intituled,* An Act for the more Effectual Suppreſſing of Blaſphemy and Prophaneneſs: *We taking all the Matters above-mentioned into Our Royal and Serious Conſideration, and being deſirous to do what in us lies, to put a Stop to theſe Diſorders, do ſtrictly Charge and Command you, together with all other Means ſuitable to your holy Profeſſion, to make uſe of your Authority according to Law, for the Repreſſing and Reſtraining of all ſuch Exorbitant Practices. And for your Aſſiſtance, We will give Charge to Our Judges, and all other Our Civil Officers, to do their Duty herein, in executing the ſaid Act, and all other Laws, againſt all ſuch Perſons as ſhall, by theſe means, give Occaſion of Scandal, Diſcord, and Diſturbance in our Church and Kingdom.*

Given at our Court at *St. James's*, the Eleventh Day of *December*, 1714. In the Firſt Year of Our Reign.

By His Majeſty's Command,

TOWNSHEND.

St. James's, December 20. The following Addreſſes have been preſented to his Majeſty.

An humble Addreſs from the Bailiff, Recorder, Juſtices of the Peace, Bailiffs, Peers and Burgeſſes of the Ancient and Loyal Corporation of Wenlock; preſented to his Majeſty by the Honourable Richard Newport (one of their Repreſentatives in Parliament) the Honourable Tho. Newport, and William Foreſter, Eſq; introduced by the Right Honourable the Earl of Bradford, Lord Lieutenant of Salop.

An humble Addreſs of the Mayor, Recorder, Aldermen, Capital Burgeſſes, and neighbouring Clergy, Gentlemen, Cuſtom-Houſe Officers and Chief Inhabitants of the Town and Borough of Bideford in the County of Devon; preſented to his Majeſty by John Forteſcue Aland, Eſq; Solicitor General to his Royal Highneſs the Prince of Wales, and Recorder of the ſaid Town, introduced by the Right Honourable the Lord Lanſdowne Baron of Bideford.

An humble Addreſs from the Governor, Council, and Repreſentatives in General Aſſembly, of the Province of New Hampſhire in New England, Congratulating his Majeſty's happy Acceſſion to the Throne.

An humble Addreſs of the Council and Aſſembly of the Province of New Hampſhire, acknowledging their great Happineſs under the wiſe Adminiſtration of Col. Dudley, his Majeſty's Governor of that Province, and praying that his Majeſty would be graciouſly pleas'd to continue him in that Truſt.

Both theſe Addreſſes were preſented by Mr. Newman, Agent for that Province, who had the Honour of kiſſing his Majeſty's Hand, being introduced by the Right Honourable the Lord Viſcount Townſhend, one of his Majeſty's Principal Secretaries of State.

Which Addreſſes his Majeſty was pleaſed to receive very graciouſly.

Petersburg, Nov. 15. *O.S.* The 31ſt paſt the Narva, a new Ship of War of above 60 Guns, built by a Ruſſian named Fedroſee, was launched here: In her Paſſage down from hence for Croonſlot the 2d Inſtant, ſhe ſtruck on the Bar nigh Peterſhoff, and ſtuck faſt till the 9th, when the Builder Fedroſee raiſed her by Engines and ſet her afloat, and has ſince conveyed her ſafe to Croonſlot, which is the Station for all the Czar's Ships of War. The 4th the Keels were laid of two Ships of 70 Guns each, which are to be finiſhed, and ready for launching by the 1ſt of May next. Six Men of War have been built at Archangel this Year, and are to be brought from thence hither the firſt open Water next Spring. The Czar continues his wonted Application to Buſineſs, frequently viewing his Ship-yards, and this Morning he ſet out for Croonſlot, deſigning to paſs ſome Days there, to inſpect the Damage the Narva has ſuffered, and order the neceſſary Repairs. Preparations are making here, by Order of his Majeſty, for acting Comedies, likewiſe Aſſemblies and Circles are appointed to be held twice a Week at Court.

Hague, Dec. 21. *N. S.* Baron Heems, the Imperial Envoy, has lately had ſeveral Conferences with the Council of State, about the Reſidue of the laſt Million of Florins negotiated here for the Service of the Imperial Troops, and for regulating the Accompts between the Emperor and the States General, in relation to the Advances made on the Part of the Emperor to their High

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